



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

MAR 23 2016

Dear Tribal Leader:

On behalf of the Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is pleased to announce the Tribal Climate Resilience Program (Program). The Program will provide funding to support tribal projects to address climate change adaptation, ocean and coastal management planning, and provide youth internships focused on climate adaptation.

The Program awards activity funding to support federally recognized tribes and tribal organizations with 638-contracting authority whose proposals are supported by a tribal resolution. The amount available is dependent on appropriated funding. Awards will be made to projects that address climate change impacts through vulnerability analysis, adaptation planning, supplementary monitoring for climate adaptation management, and youth internships and engagement. Awards will also be made to projects that ensure tribal participation in ocean and coastal (including the Great Lakes) cooperative planning and projects for resource health, resiliency, community safety, and economic security for present and future generations.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Climate Adaptation Planning (Categories 1-3)

Rapidly changing climatic conditions are already impacting tribes, and the challenges of planning for and adapting to future climate impacts span the entire range of tribal government functions and traditional use. Because Tribes have limited resources to evaluate climate risks and minimize impacts, applicants may request funding for:

Category 1. Trainings & Workshops

Category 1 awards are designed to support tribes and tribal organizations to design and host tribal training(s) or workshop(s) that will assist tribal leaders, climate change coordinators, planners, and program managers in developing the skills necessary to develop tribal climate adaptation plans or management options through in-person and webinar trainings and workshops.

Category 2. Climate Adaptation Planning

Category 2 awards are designed to support tribal governments in the development of climate adaptation plans, vulnerability assessments, or in data analysis efforts, including supplementary monitoring. Emphasis is placed on climate adaptation planning efforts that focus on regional planning or those that serve multiple tribes.

Category 3. Travel Support – Climate

Category 3 awards are designed to provide access to training and technical workshops that help maintain or build climate adaptation knowledge and skills. Tribal participation in training and

technical workshops ensures a tribal voice is included and other practitioners benefit from tribal participation in training, research, and cooperative implementation efforts. Awards support travel for tribal leaders and staff to attend training(s) or workshop(s) or to participate in cooperative climate change adaptation efforts (including Climate Smart training, Landscape Conservation Cooperatives, Climate Science Centers, and other adaptation management forums). Salary costs for training will not be funded. International travel will not be funded.

Ocean and Coastal Management Planning (Categories 4-5)

Ocean and Coastal management funding will focus on addressing coastal erosion and development, sea level rise, ocean acidification, and emergency management. Because tribes with ocean and coastal resources or ocean and coastal harvest rights face complex and special challenges, applicants may request funding for:

Category 4. Ocean and Coastal Management Planning

Category 4 awards are designed to assist tribes with ocean and coastal management planning; marine spatial planning; coast climate adaptation analysis; and cooperative marine resource plans. Funding should build tribal capacity and can be used to assist with a tribe's efforts to restore and provide resilience of coastal resources; perform inventories or vulnerability assessments; identify monitoring protocols and critical indicator species; or implement a unique pilot study or project that would advance tribal climate adaptation or ocean and coastal management knowledge.

Category 5. Travel Support - Ocean & Coastal

Category 5 awards are designed to support direct travel costs for tribal leaders or staff participation in, coordination, or training for interagency ocean and coastal spatial planning. Awards will not duplicate elements of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. This funding will provide travel support for tribal representatives to attend organizational meetings, working sessions, or official meetings in support of collaborative planning efforts, including meetings of Regional Planning Bodies. Salary costs for training will not be funded. International travel will not be funded.

Youth Engagement Categories (6-8)

A goal of Tribal Climate Resilience is to foster the next generation of tribal climate leaders. Categories of funding are available for three different types of youth internships with a focus on climate adaptation:

Category 6. Youth Management Internships

Category 6 awards are designed to support employment opportunities working with tribal or BIA trust resources managers, tribal programs, or tribal organizations to support integration of climate mitigation or adaptation planning into programs for the benefit of tribes.

Category 7. Youth Research Internships

Category 7 awards are designed to promote employment opportunities working with tribal or BIA programs or colleges with a purpose of advancing research by helping to identify

climate vulnerabilities, inform or perform data analysis, or address ocean and coastal management challenges.

Category 8. Youth Engagement

Category 8 awards are designed to support the integration of climate change considerations into new or existing youth programs. Awards support tribes, tribal colleges, or tribal organizations with activities for primary or secondary school-age youth and their engagement in science, technology, engineering or traditional ecological knowledge education or their engagement with a significant integrated component on climate adaptation, climate mitigation, or ocean and coastal management challenges for tribes.

Category 9. Capacity Building

****NEW CATEGORY****

In Fiscal Year 2016 a new category has been created to support tribes that have limited technical or staffing capacity to identify how the tribe or tribal organization can start addressing climate change adaptation. Proposals under this category will fund part-time staff to identify tribal climate adaptation needs through a scoping or similar review and prioritization process in order to increase the strength of proposals in future Tribal Climate Resilience notices of funding in Climate Adaptation Planning and Ocean and Coastal Management Planning (Categories 2 and 4).

Requests for Proposals

Proposals will be evaluated for their responsiveness to the Tribal Climate Resilience activity standards under the above categories. Proposals for international travel will **not** be funded. Proposals must be supported by tribal resolution(s) of the relevant tribe(s).

Awards are subject to available funding. Awards will be made either as a direct service to tribes or pursuant to the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act, 25 U.S.C. Section 450 *et. seq.* Tribal organizations, as defined at 25 U.S.C. Section 450b(1), are eligible for funding. All proposals must have tribal resolution(s) supporting their requests in order to receive funding. The BIA will review and fund all eligible proposals received by 9:00 p.m. E.S.T. on May 23, 2016. Any award under this announcement does not guarantee future funding of any kind, including future Tribal Climate Resilience announcements. Overall project costs may exceed the amount of the BIA contribution. Funds provided under a self-determination contract may be used to meet matching or cost participation requirements under other Federal and non-Federal programs.

Additional details, including evaluation criteria, are enclosed in the Notice of Funding.

Proposal Deadline: May 23, 2016 by 9:00 p.m. E.D.T. Contract proposals must contain the information required by 25 CFR 900.8. Send completed proposals to climate.funding@bia.gov or by hard copy to:

Ms. Helen Riggs: Attn: Climate Change
Deputy Bureau Director, Trust Services
Bureau of Indian Affairs
1849 C St. NW, MS-4620-MIB
Washington, D.C. 20240

If you or your staff have questions on the process, please contact your Regional Climate Change POC or Mr. Sean J. Hart, the Climate Change Coordinator within the Deputy Bureau Director, Office of Trust Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, at climate.funding@bia.gov or by calling (202) 513-0337.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lawrence S. Roberts", is placed over a light blue rectangular background.

Lawrence S. Roberts
Acting Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Enclosures